

S52 The Boasting Prophet

On May 26, 1844, Joseph Smith Jr. preached in a Sunday message, "I have more to boast of than ever any man had. I am the only man that has ever been able to keep a whole church together. ...Neither Paul, John, Peter, nor Jesus ever did it. I boast that no man ever did such a work as I. The followers of Jesus ran away from Him, but the Latter-day Saints never ran away from me yet." (*History of the Church, v. 6, by the LDS Church, p. 408-409*)
JESUS SAID, "Every tree is known by his own fruit... A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks" (*Luke 6:44-45*).
(see: TriGrace.org '4 Step Boasting' visual)

CH 14—THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST VS JESUS CHRIST

S53, Jesus Is Our Living Prophet

- We Have A Living Prophet—Deuteronomy 18:15, 18-19
- Jesus claimed to be 'that prophet'—John 5:46
- Jesus was recognized as 'that prophet'—John 6:14; Acts 3:22-26
- Jesus is the final prophet—Luke 16:16; Hebrews 1:1-2; 13:5
- The Spirit sent from Jesus will guide us—John 14:16-18
- A personal relationship with our Prophet—Romans 8:9-10, Col. 2:6-7

S54, The Words of Jesus—Are the Most Important Words Ever Spoken

- Jesus promised to preserve His Words for all—Matt. 24:35
 - Jesus said His words were absolute truth—John 8:31-32; 14:6
 - The Words of Jesus are a sure foundation—Luke 6:46-49
 - The Words of Jesus will judge us in the final judgment—John 12:48
 - Everyone who loves truth listens to Jesus—John 18:37
- (see: TriGrace.org '4 Step Words of Jesus' visual aid)

S55, The Jesus Survey for Mormons

(see: TriGrace.org 'The Jesus Survey' and 'The Jesus Challenge' visuals)

S56, Mormonism and Racism

3 Reasons racism can never be completely erased from Mormonism

1. Prophets, Seers, and Revelators of the LDS Church were Racists
 2. The LDS Scriptures were and still are Racist—
Moses 7:8; 2 Nephi 5:21; 3 Nephi 2:14-15
 3. The LDS God is the 'root' of the racism and is a Racist Himself
- God is not a Racist—ALL men are equal in God's sight!

CH 13—PROPHET PROBLEMS

S49, Differing Accounts of 'The First Vision'

(See TriGrace.org – 'Joseph Smith's First Vision' visual aid)

The 1832 First Vision written in Joseph's own handwriting as compared to the official 1838 version found in the Pearl of Great Price

- **Official version**—Says Joseph was 15 years old.
1832 account—Joseph says he was 16 years old.
- **Official version**—Says James 1:5 was the very reason Joseph decided he would seek the Lord in prayer.
1832—Joseph makes no mention of James 1:5.
- **Official version**—Says Joseph's reason for praying was to find out, "which of all the sects was right (for at this time it had never entered into my heart that all were wrong)."
1832—Joseph says this issue had already been settled in his thinking—he learned "by searching the scriptures" that all the Christian denominations were wrong.
- **Official version**—Claims that a terrible power of darkness overcame Joseph when he initially started to pray.
1832—Joseph does not even mention a terrible power of darkness.
- **Official version**—Says Joseph was visited by two personages, the Father and the Son.
1832—Joseph said he was visited by just one person, the Lord.
- **Official Version**—Makes no mention of forgiveness.
1832—Joseph went into the woods to pray for forgiveness and was overjoyed when the Lord forgave him.
- **Official Version**—God slams every Christian denomination stating they are all wrong, all their creeds are an abomination, and all their professors are corrupt.
1832—Joseph does not mention God's displeasure with the Christian denominations merely stating, "the world lieth in sin and at this time none doeth good no not one..."

S50, Polygamy Contradictions

- Jacob 2:23-23—polygamy is strongly condemned
- 1835 D&C, Section CI [101] 'MARRIAGE', p. 251, stated, "Inasmuch as this church has been reproached with the crime of fornication, and polygamy: we declare that we believe, that one man should have one wife; and one woman, but one husband, except in case of death when either is at liberty to marry again."

- 1876 D&C Section 132:1-4 polygamy is commanded to be practiced—[the 1835 Section CI [101] on ‘MARRIAGE’ was removed at this time.]
- Jacob 2:23-28 used David and Solomon as examples of the wickedness of polygamy; D&C 132:38-39 use David and Solomon as shining examples as to the righteousness of polygamy.
- Doctrine and Covenants, Official Declaration I, The ‘Manifesto’ officially commanded polygamy to stop in the LDS Church.

Joseph Smith’s 34 Wives—condemn the ‘Prophet’ as an immoral man

- Ten of Joseph Smith’s wives were teenage girls—two 14 year old and two 16 year old girls.
- Joseph married a mother and her daughter – Patty Bartlett Sessions and Sylvia Sessions Lyon.

God said, *“If a man take a wife and her mother, it is wickedness: they shall be burned with fire, both he and they; that there be no wickedness among you.” Leviticus 20:14, see also Lev. 18:17.*

- Joseph married several sets of sisters (the Huntingtons, Partridges, Johnsons, & Lawrences)

God said, *“Neither shalt thou take a wife to her sister... to uncover her nakedness, beside the other in her lifetime.” Leviticus 18:18.*

- Eleven marriages were to women who had living husbands. All of these married women lived in ongoing ‘polyandrous’ relationships with both their husbands and Joseph Smith.

God said, *“The man that committeth adultery with another man’s wife... the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death.” Leviticus 20:10.*

- Marrying married women was also adultery according to Joseph’s own teachings,

Joseph said, *“If any man espouse a virgin, and desire to espouse another, and the first give her consent... and they are virgins, and have vowed to no other man, then is he justified; he cannot commit adultery for they are given unto him; for he cannot commit adultery with that that belongeth unto him and to no one else... But if one or either of the ten virgins, after she is espoused, shall be with another man, she has committed adultery.” D&C 132:61-63.*

S51 False Prophecies of Joseph Smith

(see TriGrace.org ‘Biblical Tests of a Prophet’ visual)

- Warning about false prophets—Matthew 24:11, 24
- Biblical Test of a Prophet—Deut. 18:20-22; (LDS, D&C 1:37-39)

False Prophecy #1—D&C 114:1

This prophecy never came to pass because David W. Patten died of wounds suffered from the battle of Crooked River. David was in the grave when he should have been on his prophesied mission for the Lord.

False Prophecy #2—D&C 84:1-5, 31

The cornerstone of the Independence, Missouri temple was laid by Joseph Smith in 1832—no temple has ever been built on this spot. The interpretation of this passage is made clear by subsequent prophets of the LDS Church, ALL of their prophesies concerning the construction of this temple failed.

- **38 years after the prophecy** – LDS Apostle Orson Pratt stated, “God promised in the year 1832 that we should, before the generation then living had passed away, return and build up the City of Zion in Jackson County: that we should return and build up the temple of the Most High where we formerly laid the corner stone. We believe in these promises as much as we believe in any promise ever uttered by the mouth of Jehovah. The Latter-day Saints just as much expect to receive a fulfillment of that promise during the generation that was in existence in 1832 as they expect that the sun will rise and set tomorrow. Why? Because God cannot lie. He will fulfill all His promises. He has spoken. It must come to pass. This is our faith” (*JofD, vol. 13, p. 362*).
- **58 years after the prophecy** – The 1890 edition of the Doctrine and Covenants, section 84, p. 289, contained a footnote that said, *“a generation does not all pass away in one hundred years” (This footnote was later deleted).*
- **102 years after the prophecy** – President Joseph Fielding Smith said, “I firmly believe that there will be some of that generation who were living when this revelation was given who shall be living when this temple is reared, and I do not believe that the Lord has bound himself to accomplish the matter within one hundred years from 1832... I have full confidence in the word of the Lord and that it shall not fail” (*The Way To Perfection, Salt Lake City, 1935, p. 270*).
- **131 years after the prophecy** – Finally, Joseph Fielding Smith admitted, “It is also reasonable to believe that no soul living in 1832, is still living in mortality on the earth” (*Answers to Gospel Questions, v. 4, Smith, p. 112*).